



**Tulare County Fire Department
SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
May 7, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Battalion Chief Jay Bushrow
Battalion Chief Jonathan Kutka
Captain Jeff Smith, Training
Lieutenant Douglas Stewart
Engineer Gerald Lindsay
Engineer Michael Damron
Bob Brunelle, Supply
Traci Hacker, FireComm

CALL TO ORDER:

This meeting was called to order by Chief Bushrow at 0900 hours.

The last meeting was February 6, 2014.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Revisit the trending data collection sheet and what can be modified to achieve this committee's goals. Smith/Chief Bushrow.
- Review the old minutes.
- Minutes to be dispersed to the committee members.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Welcome, orientation, follow up on old business.
- This meeting was convened to review Accident and Injury Reports over the last quarter. In addition, the Committee looked at improving the Injury Review Form.

CALENDAR

The next meeting has been scheduled for August 5, 2014 @ 0900.

Summary of Injury Reports are as follows:

INJURIES:

14-002

Date: 03/25/2014

Details: Command vehicle Bed-Sled installed inside the bed of the vehicle apparently failed to operate properly due to broken components (wheel/bar). Failure prevented the equipment to move easily and be returned to normal position for driving. The operator used sufficient force to try to correct/overcome the condition, which resulted in an internal injury.

Recommendations: Know personal limitations. Request additional resources/help when needed. Review the Bed-Sled equipment for proper design, load and use. Refer to the Standards Committee for additional review.

Summary of Accident reports are as follow:

Accidents:

V14-002

Date: 02/24/2014

Details: When pulling into the drive-thru apparatus bay, the driver pressed the wrong button on garage door openers as they drove into the bay, which cause the door to come down into the apparatus windshield and damaged the garage door.

Recommendation: Do not activate the garage door opener(s) until the vehicle is completely within, or out, of the station bay. The BC needs to verify that garage door openers are appropriately labeled and the garage door safety sensors are appropriately working, to help prevent another incident.

V14-003

Date: 03/11/2014

Details: Staff vehicle backed into a dumpster, resulting with a minor crack on the rear bumper.

Recommendation: Review safe driver and backing SOG(s). Always perform a Golden Circle before driving your vehicle. Utilize all vehicle mirrors when backing. Request assistance backing when needed.

V14-004

Date: 04/12/2014

Details: Patrol suffered heat damage on an incident from a spot fire. It affected the passenger side, rear quarter panel paint, mud flap, one code 3 light and 2 tires.

Recommendation: Committee supports Fire Management incident review/investigation and subsequent actions.

V14-005

Date: 04/17/2014

Details: An engine responded to a medical aid and attempted to cross a wooden bridge over a canal to get to the incident address. The bridge material cracked under the weight of the Engine and the right front wheel fell through the bridge.

Recommendation: Driver operator should assume that all bridges have a failure potential, unless otherwise posted and verified. The operator should be familiar with the bridges in the area, and know the weight limits and dimensions of the apparatus they operate.

ROUND TABLE:

1. Committee to continue working on process for capturing trending data on injuries and accidents. Create Vehicle Accident form.
2. Engineer Damron will follow up on the requested clarification from Risk Management as to the proper procedures for supervisors when employees report mental stress. Is the employee first given direction to utilize programs in place (CISM, EAP) and it's documented on the worker's compensation packet or do we simply fill out the packet without additional interference?

3. Engineer Damron will follow up on the traffic safety vests being out of compliance with ANSI.
4. Committee discussion in regards to the legal implications of dispatch notifications over the radio for specific situations where firefighter safety can be compromised. i.e. "Universal Precautions". BC Kutka to research.
5. BC Bushrow will present current Committee status to Fire Management at next Staff Mtg, scheduled for May 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 1115 hours.